THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) According to the provisions of the Article 243G of the Constitution, the State Governments may endow the Panchayats with powers and authority to plan and implement schemes for social justice and economic development. The State Governments are accordingly to consider the 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule for devolution to the Panchayats. The number of subjects devolved to the Panchayats varies across the States/UTs.

(c) The elected representative of the Panchayats are provided training and capacity building under various schemes of the State and Central Governments to exercise powers and functions assigned to the Panchayats.

Production in KG-D6

†2103. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the responsibility of production in Krishna- Godavari-D6 oil reserve has been entrusted to a joint enterprise;

(b) if so, names of partners in the Joint Venture alongwith the percentage of partnership of each partner, separately;

(c) whether the investments made till now in these oil reserves have been estimated finally; and

(d) if so, the total investments made so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURALI DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The KG-D6 block has been awarded to a Consortium consisting of Reliance Industries Limited and Niko Resources Limited with 90% and 10% of Participating interest respectively under the first round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-I).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Comptroller and Auditor General (C & AG) is conducting the audit of this Block for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 with the option to take up the audit of earlier years.

Auction under NELP

2104. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how many blocks have been auctioned in the eight rounds of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP);

(b) of these, in how many blocks oil and gas have been discovered and the block-wise estimates; and

(c) of these, in how many blocks exploration has started?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.